

## Larva Lace Caddis Larva with Tom Regina

**Fly fishing.** Bring up the subject and most anglers and non anglers envision trout rising to the surface to slurp a small dry fly. But the fact is subsurface flies - nymphs, wets, and streamers - account for the great majority of fly-caught trout.

Trout react so well to subsurface flies because the imitations mimic the preponderance of the food forms present in every trout stream and river throughout the year. Dry flies on the other hand imitate adult insects that are available to trout for comparatively brief periods. In other words, trout see and eat more subsurface natural food forms than they do surface food forms because subsurface foods are more abundant and more available to trout.

One of the most familiar aquatic insect species imitated by fly tiers are caddis flies. Caddis flies have a true metamorphosis - egg, larva, pupa, and adult. The tiny eggs are of no interest (except for the perpetuation of the bug) to the fly dresser or angler. And it is doubtful the eggs are of interest to catchable size trout. In keeping with our 2007 Saturday fly tying clinic focus we will tie a caddis nymph. Specifically, a Larva Lace Caddis Larva Nymph. So named because of the material used to fashion the abdomen of the imitation - Larva Lace.

Larva Lace Body Material is a hollow, tubular vinyl substance. It is soft and pliable, has a high stretch factor, is translucent, and comes in an assortment of colors from clear to black. Materials such as wire, thread, and flash may be threaded through the hollow lace for a realistic exoskeleton appearance. Liquid can also be sucked into the tubing for a wet appearance.

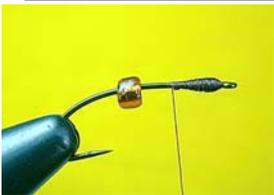
Larva Lace Body Material is available from fly shops, through catalog sales, or directly from the distributor at [www.larvalace.com](http://www.larvalace.com). The Larva Lace web site also has fly tying recipes and instructions for using Larva Lace. Nymph lace is the generic name for products with the same properties as Larva Lace. A good information source for tying with Larva Lace and/or nymph lace is the book by Phil Camera, "Fly Tying with Synthetics - Patterns & Techniques", Swan Hill Press, ISBN 1 85310 338 1.

### Materials

<b>Hook</b>	Mustad C53S size 8
<b>Thread</b>	6/0 brown and olive
<b>Head</b>	Brown glass bead and brown thread
<b>Abdomen</b>	Olive Larva Lace Body Material or nymph lace
<b>Thorax</b>	Brown nymph dubbing
<b>Legs</b>	Brown mottled hen hackle fibers



### Tying Instructions



1. Debarb the hook and slide a glass bead of the appropriate size onto the hook. Mount the hook in the vise. Start the brown thread on the hook directly behind the hook eye and form a small thread bump behind the eye. Wrap a thread base rearward two bead widths.



2. Wrap the thread forward to the thread bump. Slide the bead forward onto the thread base up to the thread bump; if the bead is loose or slides over the thread bump, add more thread wraps until the bead slips snugly over the thread base and is tight against the thread bump. Tie off the brown thread in front of the thread bump with a half hitch or whip finish knot. Cut away the brown thread and apply cement to the thread wraps. Push the bead up against the thread bump. Start the olive thread directly behind the bead and form a small thread dam against the back of the bead to lock it in place.



3. Wrap the olive thread rearward in touching turns to form a thread base back to a point directly above the hook barb. Spiral wrap the thread forward to a point equal to one bead width back from the bead. Cut about a 4-inch piece of lace from the skein. Mount the lace with several tight overlapping thread wraps to the top of the hook at the thread hang point. The long end should extend over the back of the hook. Cut away the front tag end.

## *Larva Lace Caddis Larva with Tom Regina (continued)*



5. Use tight touching thread wraps to bind the lace to the top of the hook as you scratch the lace rearward. Bind the lace down to a point directly above the hook barb. Spiral wrap the thread forward to the lace tie-on point



6. Stretch the lace and palmer it forward in tight touching but not overlapping turns. As you wrap the lace forward lessen the stretching force applied to the lace so the body segments of the abdomen get larger with each turn. Tie-off the lace at the lace tie-on point. Cut away the lace tag end.



7. Form a buggy thorax over the last body segment and forward to just short of the bead.



8. For the legs, strip 10 - 15 hen hackle fibers from a chicken feather and mount them to the bottom of the hook between the thorax and the bead. Whip finish or half hitch the thread between the legs and the bead. Cut away the thread and apply a small amount of head cement using caution not to get cement on the thorax or legs.

## *Annual Auction....Art de Tonnancourt, Chairman*

The club will hold its annual auction on Tuesday evening, May 1st at 7 PM. Because this date would normally be our business meeting night, there may be a short business meeting before the auction begins.

All members are requested to bring anything of value to be auctioned that evening. In the past fly fishing related objects, outdoor sports equipment, books and other articles of value have been sold at the auction. Many of our club members historically have tied flies or crafted objects especially for the event. There are usually many very useful articles that are auctioned at bargain prices making this annual auction a win-win evening for the club as well as for the buyers. The auction evening has always been a good time for all to participate in fellowship plus it an opportunity to contribute to the club's financial success. The auction committee is asking boat owners to let Art know if they are willing to "donate" their companionship and boat for a day of fishing in the local waters with a successful bidder for the local fishing trip. The time and date would be arranged by mutual consent between the donor and the winning bidder. This is a great way for members to get to know each other better and to give those of us who do not own a boat an opportunity to fish for a day.

Art and some of the other members who have volunteered to help on the auction committee will be at the club by 5 pm to accommodate anyone who wishes to bring their articles early. The earlier the stuff gets to the club the better it will be to organize the merchandise for the auction. If this time is not suitable for anyone, please call Art at 516-4076 for other arrangements.